Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 (ISO) W

-----031641 302338Z/23

O 302056Z AUG 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3060

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03362

NAIROBI PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: DRAFT TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH THE

SOUTH AFRICANS

FOLLOWING ARE THE DRAFT TALKING POINTS, APPROVED AD REFERENDUM BY THE CONTACT GROUP AUGUST 30, FOR USE (ORALLY ONLY) IN WESTERN FIVE APPROACH TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS (SEPTEL):

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BEGIN TEXT.

DRAFT TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT

THE ENTERPRISE OF BRINGING NAMIBIA TO INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED INDEPENDENCE, ON WHICH OUR FIVE GOVERNMENTS

AND YOUR GOVERNMENT HAVE WORKED SO SUCCESSFULLY TOGETHER OVER THESE PAST SEVENTEEN MONTHS, HAS NOW REACHED THE CRUCIAL STAGE OF EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL OF THE FIVE.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT IS NOW BEFORE THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AND WE ARE PRESSING FOR COUNCIL ENDORSEMENT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. OUR FIVE GOVERNMENTS ARE SATISFIED TAHT THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL FOLLOWS CLOSELY BOTH THE LETTER AND THE SPIRIT OF THE PROPOSAL OF THE FIVE WHICH YOU ACCEPTED IN APRIL. THIS IS DUE IN NO SMALL PART TO THE WILLING AND EXTENSIVE COOPERATION EXTENDED TO MR. AHTISAARI'S SURVEY TEAM BY JUDGE STEYN AND HIS ADMINISTRATION DURING THEIR VISIT TO NAMIBIA.

WE NATURALLY ATTACH PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO THE ACCEPTANCE BY THE PARTIES, BY THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF OUR PROPOSAL ITSELF. BUT WE RECOGNISE THAT BECAUSE OF THE DELAYS SINCE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, THERE IS NOW A LOGICAL CONFLICT WITHIN THE PROPOSAL ITSELF AS TO THE QUESTION OF THE TIMETABLE. THE STAGES OUTLINED IN THE PROPOSAL ARE SET WITHIN A TIMETABLE WITHIN WHICH CERTAIN STEPS HAVE TO BE ACCOMPLISHED. THE DATE OF 31 DECEMBER 1978 FOR INDEPENDENCE, AS ORIGINALLY INCORPORATED IN OUR PROPOSAL AND AS ALSO DECLARED AS YOUR OBJECTIVE, CONFIDENTIAL.

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IS NO LONGER REALISTIC WHEN IT IS COMPARED TO THE TIME-TABLE FOR ELECTIONS SET DOWN IN THE ANNEX TO OUR PROPOSAL. AS THE PROPOSAL ITSELF POINTS OUT, THE CENTRAL TASK OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE IS TO ENSURE THAT CONDITIONS ARE ESTABLISHED WHICH WILL ALLOW FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS AND AN IMPARTIAL ELECTORAL PROCESS. AS THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL MAKES CLEAR, THE LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSAL IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE COMPLEXITY OF THE TASK TO BE PERFORMED AND TO THE OVERRIDING PRINCIPLE THAT CERTAIN STEPS ARE NECESSARY BEFORE IT CAN BE SAID THAT CONDITIONS EXIST FOR THE HOLDING OF FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS. THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WILL HAVE TO BE SATISFIED, NOT SO MUCH THAT A CERTAIN TIMETABLE HAS BEEN ADHERED TO, BUT THAT THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN MET.

WE CONSIDER, AND INDEED WE HOPE, THAT WITH YOUR COOPERATION SOME OF THE STEPS SET OUT IN THE ANNEX TO OUR PROPOSAL CAN BE TELESCOPED OR CAN BE RUN TOGETHER. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT MR. AHTISAARI WILL ALSO WORK FULL-HEARTEDLY TOWARDS THIS END. AS WE HAVE SAID TO YOU

BEFORE, AS AUTHORS OF THE PROPOSAL WE SHALL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR ITS PROPER AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION, BUT WE AGREE WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL THAT THIS CANNOT NOW BE DONE BY THE END OF 1978 AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED. WE APPRECIATE THAT THIS IS A PROBLEM FOR YOU, AND INDEED FOR US, BUT WE CANNOT NOW LET THE PROPOSAL FAIL BECAUSE THE REALITIES OF THE SITUATION DICTATE AN EXTENSION OF THE DATE BY A FEW MONTHS. LET US AGREE RATHER THAT THE COUNTDOWN FOR THE STEPS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSAL SHOULD START FROM THE DATE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MANDATE, AS THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL PROPOSES.

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END TEXT. LEONARD

	Sheryl P. Walter	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	20 Mar 2014
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Subject: NAMIBIA: DRAFT TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH THE SOUTH AFRICANS FOLLOWING ARE THE DRAFT TALKING POINTS,

APPROVED
TAGS: PORG, PDEV, SF, WA, UNSC

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